

36.(currently amended): A guide device for maintaining the horizontal position of a predetermined portion of a workpiece while said device guides a power hand saw across the workpiece a power saw operating upon a workpiece to divide the workpiece into two separated portions irrespective of the length of cut comprising:

a guide bar having a length that facilitates the guiding of a power hand saw beyond corresponding edges of a workpiece;

a first clamp removably secured to a first end of the workpiece, said first clamp comprising:

a frame having a notch centrally disposed for allowing a saw blade to pass through said frame, said frame including an engagement wall for positioning said first clamp adjacent to a first edge of the workpiece, a lower wall for disposing a protection wall a predetermined horizontal distance from said engagement wall, and opposing angle portions for engaging upper edge portions of the workpiece on each side of a line of cut, said lower wall and opposing angle portions being vertically separated a distance that promotes the insertion of the workpiece between an upper edge of said lower wall and bottom walls of said angle portions; and

first and second securing means clamp screws secured to said lower wall and disposed to engage a corresponding angle portion of said frame, said first and second clamp screws being initially disposed to allow the workpiece to engage said engagement wall, said first and second clamp screws ultimately securing the workpiece against said angle portions on each side of the line of cut after the workpiece engages said engagement wall, said first and second clamp screws,

engagement wall and angle portions being cooperatively configured for
maintaining the horizontal position of a first end portion of the workpiece while
said guide bar guides a power hand saw across the workpiece;
~~for removably securing said frame to the first end of the workpiece on each side of~~
~~an intended line of cut; and a notch in said frame for allowing a saw blade to~~
~~divide the first end of the workpiece into two portions, said notch being disposed~~
~~between said first and second securing means, said notch and said first and second~~
~~securing means being cooperatively configured to maintain the position of the two~~
~~portions of the divided first end of the workpiece;~~

a second clamp removably secured to a second end of the workpiece, said second clamp comprising:

a frame having a notch centrally disposed for allowing a saw blade to pass
through said frame, said frame including an engagement wall for positioning said
second clamp adjacent to a second edge of the workpiece, a lower wall for
disposing a protection wall a predetermined horizontal distance from said
engagement wall, and opposing angle portions for engaging upper edge portions
of the workpiece on each side of a line of cut, said lower wall and opposing angle
portion being vertically separated a distance that promotes the insertion of the
workpiece between an upper edge of said lower wall and bottom walls of said
angle portions; and
first and second clamp screws secured to said lower wall and disposed to engage a
corresponding angle portion of said frame, said first and second clamp screws
being initially disposed to allow the workpiece to engage said engagement wall,

said first and second clamp screws ultimately securing the workpiece against said angle portions on each side of the line of cut after the piece engages said engagement wall, said first and second clamp screws, engagement wall and angle portions being cooperatively configured for maintaining the horizontal position of a second end portion of the workpiece while said guide bar guides the power hand saw across the workpiece;

~~securing means for removably securing said frame to the second end of the workpiece on each side of the intended line of cut; and a notch in said frame for allowing the saw blade to divide the second end of the workpiece into two portions, said notch being disposed between said first and second securing means, said notch and said first and second securing means being cooperatively configured to maintain the position of the two portions of the divided second end of the workpiece; and~~

~~means for visually aiding the tool operator to avoid contact between the saw blade and portions of said first and second clamps while the saw blade divides the workpiece into two separated portions~~

means for aligning said first and second clamps relative to the intended line of cut; and
means for securing said guide bar to said first and second clamps.

37(original): The device of claim 36 wherein said first and second clamps include means for removably attaching a guide bar thereto.

38(original): The device of claim 37 wherein said guide bar includes a plurality of planar surfaces that provide a rectangular cross section.

39(original): The device of claim 37 wherein said guide bar includes a slot centered along the

longitudinal axis of a bottom surface of said guide bar.

40(original): The device of claim 37 wherein said guide bar includes a plurality of slots centered along the longitudinal axis of a bottom surface of said guide bar.

41(amended): The device of claim 40 wherein said attaching means includes a lever and bolt ~~cooperatively coupled to promote the attachment of~~ connected to said guide bar to ~~and~~ said first and second clamps.

42(amended): The device of claim 36 wherein each of said first and second ~~securing means~~ clamp screws of said first and second clamps includes ~~includes~~ include a hand operated clamp screw that extends through a ~~said~~ lower wall of said frame to rotatably urge a clamp plate to engage a bottom wall of the workpiece to ultimately bind the workpiece between said clamp plate and an ~~said~~ angle portion of said frame, said clamp screw being rotatably secured to the frame by a clamp nut integrally secured to said lower wall of said frame.

43(amended): The device of claim 36 wherein each of said ~~frames include a protection wall that prevents walls prevent~~ the workpiece from engaging clamp nuts integrally secured to a lower wall of each of said frames thereby promoting the engagement of edges of the first and second ends of the workpiece with a corresponding engagement wall of each of said frames to maximize the surface area of engagement between a top wall of the workpiece and said angle portions of said frames of said first and second clamps.

44(original): The device of claim 36 wherein each of said notches in said frames are configured to allow a saw blade to pass through each of said frames such that the saw blade avoids engagement with said frames thereby allowing the saw blade to continue cutting the workpiece while the saw blade is manually urged across the line of cut of the workpiece.

45(amended): The device of claim 36 wherein said ~~visual aid means includes an inner edge of an~~

angle portion portions include an inner edge disposed on each side of said notch of each of said first and second clamps, said inner edges providing a visual aid to the power tool operator to avoid contact between the saw blade and said angle portions of said first and second clamps.

46(original): The device of claim 45 wherein said inner edges of opposing angle portions on each side of a corresponding notch, are angled to converge as said inner edges approach an engagement wall of said frames of said first and second clamps.

47(amended): A device for maintaining the position of a rigid workpiece after being divided into two portions comprising:

a guide bar having a length that facilitates the guiding of a power hand saw beyond corresponding edges of a workpiece;

a first clamp removably secured to a first end of the workpiece, said first clamp comprising:

a frame having a notch centrally disposed for allowing a saw blade to pass through said frame, said frame including an engagement wall for positioning said first clamp adjacent to a first edge of the workpiece, a lower wall for disposing a protection wall a predetermined horizontal distance from said engagement wall, and opposing angle portions for engaging upper edge portions of the workpiece on each side of a line of cut, said lower wall and opposing angle portions being vertically separated a distance that promotes the insertion of the workpiece between and upper edge of said lower wall and bottom walls of said angle portions; and

~~first and second securing means for removably securing said frame to the first end of the workpiece on each side of an intended line of cut; and~~

~~a notch in said frame for allowing a saw blade to divide the first end of the workpiece into two portions, said notch being disposed between said first and second securing means, said notch and said first and second securing means being cooperatively configured to maintain the position of the two portions of the divided first end of the workpiece; and~~

first and second clamp screws secured to said lower wall and disposed to engage a corresponding angle portion of said frame, said first and second clamp screws being initially disposed to allow the workpiece to engage said engagement wall, said first and second clamp screws ultimately securing the workpiece against said angle portions on each side of the line of cut after the workpiece engages said engagement wall, said first and second clamp screws, engagement wall and angle portions being cooperatively configured for maintaining the horizontal position of a first end portion of the workpiece while said guide ar guides a power hand saw across the workpiece;

a second clamp removably secured to a second end of the workpiece, said second clamp comprising:

a frame having a notch centrally disposed for allowing a saw blade to pass through said frame, said frame including an engagement wall for positioning said second clamp adjacent to a second edge of the workpiece, a lower wall for disposing a protection wall a predetermined horizontal distance from said engagement wall, and opposing angle portions for engaging upper edge portions of the workpiece on each side of a line of cut, said lower wall and opposing angle portions being vertically separated a distance that promotes the insertion of

workpiece between an upper edge of said lower wall and bottom walls of said angle portions; and

first and second clamp screws secured to said lower wall and disposed to engage a corresponding angle portion of said frame, said first and second clamp screws being initially disposed to allow the workpiece to engage said engagement wall, said first and second clamp screws ultimately securing the workpiece against said angle portions on each side of the line of cut after the workpiece engages said engagement wall, said first and second clamp screws, engagement wall and angle portions being cooperatively configured for maintaining the horizontal position of a second end portion of the workpiece while said guide bar guides a power hand saw across the workpiece;

means for aligning said first and second clamps relative to the intended line of cut; and means for securing said guide bar to said first and second clamps.

~~first and second securing means for removably securing said frame to the second end of the workpiece on each side of the intended line of cut; and a notch in said frame for allowing the saw blade to divide the second end of the workpiece into two portions, said notch being disposed between said first and second securing means, said notch and said first and second securing means being cooperatively configured to maintain the position of the two portions of the divided second end of the workpiece.~~

48(original): The device of claim 47 wherein said first and second clamps each include means for visually aiding the tool operator to avoid contact between the saw blade and portions of said first and second clamps while the saw blade divides the workpiece into two separated portions.

49(amended): The device of claim 47 wherein said first and second clamps include means for removably attaching ~~a~~ said guide bar thereto.

50(original): The device of claim 49 wherein said guide bar includes a plurality of slots centered along the longitudinal axis of a bottom surface of said guide bar.

51(amended): The device of claim 49 wherein said attaching means includes a lever and bolt ~~cooperatively coupled to promote the attachment of~~ connected to said guide bar ~~to~~ and said first and second clamps.

52(amended): The device of claim 47 wherein each of said first and second clamp screws ~~securing means~~ of said first and second clamps includes a hand operated clamp screw that extends through ~~a~~ said lower wall of said frame to rotatably urge a clamp plate to engage a bottom wall of the workpiece to ultimately bind the workpiece between said clamp plate and an angle portion of said frame, said clamp screw being rotatably secured to the frame by a clamp nut integrally secured to said lower wall of said frame.

53(original): The device of claim 48 wherein said visual aid means includes and inner edge of an angle portion disposed on each side of said notch of each of said first and second clamps, said inner edges providing a visual aid to the power tool operator to avoid contact between the saw blade and said angle portions of said first and second clamps.

54(original): The device of claim 53 wherein said inner edges of opposing angle portions on each side of a corresponding notch, are angle to converge as said inner edges approach an engagement wall of said frames of said first and second clamps.

55(amended): A method for maintaining the position of a rigid workpiece while being divided into two portions, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a guide bar having a length that facilitates the guiding of a power hand saw

beyond corresponding edges of a workpiece;

providing a first clamp removably secured to a first end of the workpiece, said first clamp comprising:

a frame having a notch centrally disposed for allowing a saw blade to pass
through said frame, said frame including an engagement wall for positioning said
first clamp adjacent to a first edge of the workpiece, a lower wall for disposing a
protection wall a predetermined horizontal distance from said engagement wall,
and opposing angle portions for engaging upper edge portions of the workpiece on
each side of a line of cut, said lower wall and opposing angle portions being
vertically separated a distance that promotes the insertion of the workpiece
between an upper edge of said lower wall and bottom walls of said angle portions;
and

first and second clamp screws secured to said lower wall and disposed to engage a
corresponding angle portion of said frame, said first and second clamp screws
being initially disposed to allow the workpiece to engage said engagement wall,
said first and second clamp screws ultimately securing the workpiece against said
angle portions on each side of the line of cut after the workpiece engages said
engagement wall, said first and second clamp screws, engagement wall and angle
portions being cooperatively configured for maintaining the horizontal position of
a first end portion of the workpiece while said guide bar guides a power hand saw
across the workpiece;

~~first and second securing means for removably securing said frame~~
~~to the first end of the workpiece on each side on an intended line of cut; and a-~~

~~notch in said frame for allowing a saw blade to divide the first end of the workpiece into two portions, said notch being disposed between said first and second securing means, said frame and said first and second securing means being cooperatively configured to maintain the position of the two portions of the divided first end of the workpiece; and~~

providing a second clamp removably secured to a second end of the workpiece, said second clamp comprising:

a frame having a notch centrally disposed for allowing a saw blade to pass through said frame, said frame including an engagement wall for positioning said second clamp adjacent to a second edge of the workpiece, a lower wall for disposing a protection wall a predetermined horizontal distance from said engagement wall, and opposing angle portions engaging upper edge portions of the workpiece on each side of a line of cut, said lower wall and opposing angle portions being vertically separated a distance that promotes the insertion of the workpiece between an upper edge of said lower wall and bottom walls of said angle portions; and

first and second clamp screws secured to said lower wall and disposed to engage a corresponding angle portion of said frame, said first and second clamp screws being initially disposed to allow the workpiece to engage said engagement wall, said first and second clamp screws ultimately securing the workpiece against said angle portions on each side of the line of cut after the workpiece engages said engagement wall, said first and second clamp screws, engagement wall and angle portions being cooperatively configured for maintaining the horizontal position of

a second end portion of the workpiece while said guide bar guides a power hand saw across the workpiece;

~~first and second securing means for removably securing said frame to the second end of the workpiece on each side of the intended line of cut; and a notch in said frame for allowing a saw blade to divide the second end of the workpiece into two portions, said notch being disposed between said first and second securing means, said frame and said first and second securing means being cooperatively configured to maintain the position of the two portions of the divided second end of the workpiece.~~

aligning said first and second clamps relative to the intended line of cut; and securing said guide bar to said first and second clamps.
